

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 17, 18, and 20 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1. – 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring ~~a foreign gene~~ an RNA of a non-segmented (-)RNA virus from a first cell to ~~a second cell~~ neighboring cells through contact infiltration without being mediated by infectious viral particles, comprising,

inoculating the first cell ~~but not the second cell~~ with a ribonucleoprotein comprising an RNA of a non-segmented (-)RNA virus, wherein the ribonucleoprotein has autonomous replication ability, and the RNA comprises a foreign gene, and the RNA lacks a gene encoding Matrix (M) protein or comprises an inactivated gene encoding M protein;

allowing the first cell to contact ~~the second cell~~ neighboring cells; and

detecting ~~the presence of the foreign gene in the second cell~~ fusion of cells contacted with the first cell.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring ~~a foreign gene~~ an RNA of a non-segmented (-)RNA virus from a first cell to ~~a second cell~~ neighboring cells through contact infiltration without being mediated by infectious viral particles, comprising,

contacting ~~second cell~~ the neighboring cells with the first cell, the first cell comprising a ribonucleoprotein comprising an RNA of a non-segmented (-)RNA virus, wherein the ribonucleoprotein has autonomous replication ability, and the RNA comprises a foreign gene, and the RNA lacks a gene encoding Matrix (M) protein or comprises an inactivated gene encoding M protein;

detecting ~~the presence of the foreign gene in the second cell~~ fusion of cells contacted with the first cell.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the ribonucleoprotein is inoculated into a mammal.
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the first cell comprising the ~~Ribonucleoprotein~~ ribonucleoprotein is inoculated into a mammal.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 17 to 20, wherein the non-segmented (-)RNA virus is Sendai virus.